

The function `swap` is intended to swap the values of two `Color` objects `a` and `b`. However, due to the way Java handles object references, this function will not have the intended effect outside its scope. Here's a detailed explanation:

## Function Definition:

```
public void swap(Color a, Color b) {  
    Color temp = a;  
    a = b;  
    b = temp;  
}
```

## What Happens Inside the Function:

### 1. `Color temp = a;`

- A local variable `temp` is created, and it holds the reference to the same `Color` object that `a` refers to.

### 2. `a = b;`

- The reference held by `a` is changed to the reference held by `b`. Now, `a` refers to the same `Color` object as `b`.

### 3. `b = temp;`

- The reference held by `b` is changed to the reference held by `temp`. Now, `b` refers to the same `Color` object that `a` originally referred to.

## Scope and References:

- In Java, method arguments are passed by value, meaning the method receives a copy of the argument values. For object references, this means the method gets a copy of the reference, not the actual object.
- When `a` and `b` are swapped inside the method, it only swaps the copies of the references. The original references passed to the method remain unchanged.

## Effect Outside the Function:

- The original `Color` references passed to the method do not change. The changes made inside the `swap` method are local to the method and do not affect the caller's variables.

## Example:

Consider the following code snippet using the `swap` method:

```

public class Main {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Color color1 = Color.RED;
        Color color2 = Color.BLUE;

        swap(color1, color2);

        // Print the colors after swap attempt
        System.out.println("color1: " + color1); // still RED
        System.out.println("color2: " + color2); // still BLUE
    }

    public static void swap(Color a, Color b) {
        Color temp = a;
        a = b;
        b = temp;
    }
}

```

Output:

```

color1: java.awt.Color[r=255,g=0,b=0]
color2: java.awt.Color[r=0,g=0,b=255]

```

The `color1` and `color2` references remain unchanged after the `swap` method is called.

## Summary:

The `swap` method attempts to swap the references of two `Color` objects, but due to Java's pass-by-value semantics for object references, the swap does not affect the actual references outside the method. The objects referenced by `a` and `b` inside the method are swapped locally, but the original references `color1` and `color2` in the caller remain unchanged.

Swapping elements within an array works because arrays in Java are objects, and when you pass an array to a method, you are passing the reference to that array. This means any modifications to the array elements within the method will affect the original array. Here's a detailed explanation:

## Understanding the Behavior with Arrays:

When you pass an array to a method in Java, the method receives a reference to the original array. Any changes made to the array elements inside the method will directly affect the elements of the array outside the method.

## Example:

Consider the following code that swaps elements in an array:

```
public class Main {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        String[] array = { "Hello", "World" };

        swap(array, 0, 1);

        System.out.println("str1: " + array[0]); // "World"
        System.out.println("str2: " + array[1]); // "Hello"
    }

    public static void swap(String[] array, int i, int j) {
        String temp = array[i];
        array[i] = array[j];
        array[j] = temp;
    }
}
```

## What Happens in the Code:

### 1. Initial Setup:

- `String[] array = { "Hello", "World" };` creates an array with two elements.
- `swap(array, 0, 1);` calls the `swap` method, passing the reference to the array and the indices of the elements to swap.

### 2. Inside the `swap` Method:

- `String temp = array[i];` creates a temporary variable `temp` that holds the value of `array[0]`, which is `"Hello"`.
- `array[i] = array[j];` assigns the value of `array[1]` (which is `"World"`) to `array[0]`.
- `array[j] = temp;` assigns the value of `temp` (which is `"Hello"`) to `array[1]`.

### 3. Effect on the Original Array:

- The elements of the original array are modified. The element at index `0` is now `"World"` and the element at index `1` is now `"Hello"`.
- This is because the array reference passed to the `swap` method points to the same array object as `array` in the `main` method.

## Why This Works:

### • Pass-by-Reference for Objects:

- When you pass an array to a method, you pass the reference to the array object, not a copy of the array.

- This means any changes to the array elements within the method affect the original array object.
- **Direct Modification of Array Elements:**
  - Within the method, you are modifying the elements of the array using the array reference.
  - These modifications are reflected in the original array because the reference points to the same array object in memory.

## Comparison with Primitive Types and Object References:

- **Primitive Types:**
  - When you pass a primitive type (e.g., `int` , `char` ) to a method, the method receives a copy of the value. Any changes to the parameter inside the method do not affect the original variable.
- **Object References:**
  - When you pass an object reference (e.g., `String` , `Color` ) to a method, the method receives a copy of the reference. Changing the reference inside the method does not affect the original reference outside the method.
  - However, if you modify the object that the reference points to, those changes will be reflected outside the method.

Arrays in Java are objects, and the array reference passed to a method allows direct modification of the array elements, which is why the `swap` method works for arrays.